



JULY 2014

ARTICLE ALERT

INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER | PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION | U.S. EMBASSY JAKARTA

U.S. Embassy Jakarta Mission Statement

The U.S. Mission partners with Indonesia to strengthen the bonds between our people and our governments to promote and protect democracy, security, and sustainable prosperity for our people, the region, and the world.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE Office of the Spokesperson

Statement by **SECRETARY KERRY** Indonesia's Presidential Election

I warmly congratulate Indonesia's president-elect Joko Widodo.

The people of Indonesia united once again to show their commitment to democracy through free and fair elections.

As the world's second and third largest democracies, the United States and Indonesia set an example for the world. We share many common values, including respect for human rights and the rule of law. Our two nations have worked hard to build the U.S.-Indonesia Comprehensive Partnership, which has strengthened our bilateral relationship so we can jointly address common regional and global challenges.

The United States looks forward to working with President-elect Widodo as we deepen our partnership, promote our shared objectives globally, and expand people-to-people ties between our nations.

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Eid al-Fitr in America and the World

Muslims across America are preparing to celebrate Eid al-Fitr, the end of Ramadan.

We Wish You a Happy Eid Mubarak

Explore more articles , ebooks, videos on Ramadan and American Muslims from IRC's Info Pack Ramadan and American Muslims 2014 at <http://goo.gl/5FSKK4>



DEMOCRACY IN INDONESIA

1. How Indonesia Won a Constitution.

By Marcus Mietzner. *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 25, No. 2, April 2014

Scholars of democratization generally agree that constitutions play a key role in determining the outcome of democratic transitions. Well drafted constitutions can serve as a solid foundation for young democracies, while flawed charters often lead to unstable polities and, in some cases, democratic reversals. Experts also tend to concur that it is not only the substantive content of constitutions that matters for post authoritarian trajectories—the process through which constitutions get produced is of equal importance. But the agreement ends there. Full text of this book review on Constitutional Change and Democracy in Indonesia. By Donald L. Horowitz is available at IRC Jakarta.

2. Indonesia's Election:

Democracy at Risk? By Karen Brooks. Council on Foreign Relations. July 2014.

Recent political unrest in parts of the Middle East has led many Western analysts to question the compatibility of Islam with democracy, but Indonesia—the world's most populous Muslim country—is looking to tell a different story, the next chapter of which begins this week. An important country about which most Americans know little, Indonesia is the world's third-largest democracy, after India and the United States, and the tenth-largest economy. In recent years, it has enjoyed high growth, low inflation, an extremely low debt-to-GDP ratio, a strong stock market, and record-breaking exports and foreign direct investment. Read more at <http://goo.gl/IFeOGy>

3. Indonesia in Pieces: The Downside of Decentralization.

By Elizabeth Pisani. *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2014.

In April, voters in Indonesia's parliamentary elections shocked many observers, confounded most pollsters, and seemed to set back their own long-term interests by failing to deliver a massive victory to the main opposition party, the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle. Under the country's complex electoral rules, a party must win 25 percent of the popular vote (or 20 percent of the seats in parliament) before it can formally nominate a presidential candidate. Read full text of the article at <http://goo.gl/RjujBU>

Find more articles and books on Democracy related issues from the eLibraryUSA Database. Get free access and email us at ircjakarta@state.gov

EDUCATION USA

4. How Do You Plan the Campus of the Future? Try Not To.

By Avi Wolfman-Arent *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 2014.

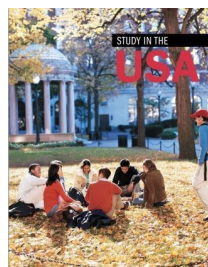
Dan Huttenlocher doesn't like walls. This isn't so much an aesthetic preference as it is a practical concern. Walls divide people and define spaces. They restrict movement. They discourage exchange. And they're a pain to move if your needs change, especially when they're stuffed with cables, ducts, and other infrastructural accessories. Mr. Huttenlocher is certain his needs will change. Mr. Huttenlocher is overseeing the

creation of an institution dedicated to technological innovation, academic experimentation, and the kind of serial flexibility those two principles require. Read full text of the article at <http://goo.gl/6zh0pE>

5. Study in the USA.

IIP Digital eBook, June 2014

U.S. colleges and universities differ widely in the academic programs and degrees they offer, as well as in campus life. Some campuses are huge, some tiny. Some are urban, some rural. Some have warm weather,



some have cold. But all U.S. colleges strive to provide students a safe, secure environment for studying and learning, with good food and housing and activities outside the classroom. Many

schools offer opportunities to meet Americans from all regions of the United States as well as students from around the world. Read all information on how to study in the USA at <http://goo.gl/80a8iN>

REGIONAL SECURITY

6. President Obama Speaks on Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17, Russia and Ukraine, and the Situation in Gaza.

The Whitehouse Blog, July 2014.

President Obama delivered a statement to the press in the wake of the tragic crash of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17. President

Obama noted that this was "a global tragedy -- an Asian airliner was destroyed in European skies, filled with citizens from many countries." And as a result, there now needs to be a credible, international investigation into exactly what happened. The President then remarked briefly on the

situation in Gaza, following a conversation with Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel on July 18, 2014. Full remark of these issues is available at <http://goo.gl/0jzFZZ>

ALL ABOUT AMERICA

7. U.S. Route 66: A Journey for Travelers Seeking 'Americana.' IIP Digital, June 2014.



As the Disney-Pixar movie *Cars* explains, there was once a thoroughfare

through the southwestern United States that weaved from Chicago to Los Angeles through small towns, prairie and open desert. For most travelers, Route 66 was

simply the best route west to California, one immortalized in John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* as the "Mother Road" the Joad family took to flee poverty during the Great Depression of the 1930s. Read more at <http://goo.gl/C629Dd>

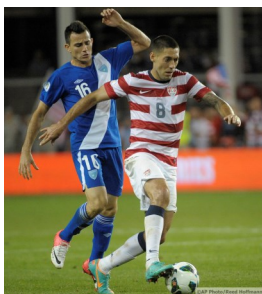
8. A New Way of Looking at Public Library Engagement in America. By Kathryn Zickuhr and Lee Rainie. American Libraries June 2014.

The Pew Research Center's Internet Project has intensively studied the changing world of public libraries for the last three years. The first stage of our research explored the growing role of ebooks, including their impact on Americans' reading habits and library habits. Our second stage examined the full universe of library services, as well as what library services Americans most value and what they might want from libraries in the future. Read more at <http://goo.gl/Lq5Q6b>

Sports in America

Sports in American Society

By Rick Telander, June 2012



It's hard to imagine a world without play. And if you can imagine such a world, it's not fun to dwell on the image.

One of the best things about the United States is how much sports and play are an integral part of everyday life in American communities and neighborhoods. On any Saturday afternoon, people of widely differing backgrounds, professions and religions can be found on the playing fields and in the gymnasiums of their local schools and community centers, playing soccer, American football, basketball, baseball and other sports, while their families cheer on the sidelines. Playing sports has long been one of the ways in which Americans put aside their differences and bond as individuals — player to player — and as communities.

If you have ever seen the way a local team can capture the imagination and passion of a community and help everyone from players to parents to observers feel lifted up, you have seen something beautiful, indeed. The New Orleans Saints are a large, professional team, but the same type of bonding and uplifting goes on regularly in large and

small towns and schools across the United States. Grammar school kids in Little League baseball play all over the nation, and invariably there will be an unlikely team that starts winning games, then tournaments, and — before the moms and dads and siblings know it — is on its way to baseball's Little League World Series.

The boy from four houses down the street from where I live in suburban Chicago — a gangly, goofy kid who stood at the school bus stop with my kids — has now won two gold medals and a silver medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and is a favorite to win more medals at the 2012 London Games. His name is Matt Grevers and when he was swimming in high school, the entire swim team went with him to an Illinois state championship. Without his opportunity to swim — and the support he received from fellow teammates and the rest of our community — Matt would have been just a lanky guy with gigantic feet instead of the Olympic athlete and leader he became.

The ripple benefit of community sports and the pursuit of excellence in sports is hard to overstate. The same can be said of the life lessons that you can learn through sports. In any job, any art, any form of expression, you will get knocked down from time to time. Through sports you learn to rise up time after time, like a spring crop.

But resilience and determination aren't the only benefits of playing sports. The great basketball player Michael Jordan had a very

unusual clause in his contract with the Chicago Bulls. It was called his "joy of the game" clause. It said that, unlike most valuable professional players, he could play basketball for free anytime and anywhere he wanted — just for the joy of playing.

Playing a sport can make anyone feel the same joy as Michael Jordan — whether they can sink a basketball or not. When the rules are followed and the spirit of the game takes hold, players and onlookers alike become as one. And that is how sports transcend differences and strengthen communities. Source: <http://goo.gl/ejCZOz>

Related Links:

EJ|USA: Goal! Food. Fitness.

Fandom. Link: <http://goo.gl/mG5MWm>

EJ|USA: Sports Strengthen

Communities. Link: <http://goo.gl/5E4Ahr>

Soccer: America's Sport of

the Future? Link: <http://goo.gl/KfDqU4>

Videos: Sports in America

Before the Aspiring Heart

Link: <http://goo.gl/odhDDG>

Women's Sports

Link: <http://goo.gl/0mHU4j>

A Ball and a Hoop

Link: <http://goo.gl/ukRx6d>

The Best Teacher

Link: <http://goo.gl/yP0JzF>

ABOUT INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER

GENERAL INFO

The Information Resource Center (IRC) is a sophisticated state-of-the-art research facility and information service at the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta. Our goal is to provide you with accurate and authoritative information about diverse aspects of the United States as well as global topic of interests through access to extensive commercial online databases and the updated collections of books, periodicals, movie, music, audio books and games (check our collection titles via our online catalog at: <http://goo.gl/67Y7vU>).

Our professional reference specialists are trained to assist users to conduct library research as well as to retrieve information quickly and conveniently. We also conducts regular programs on English language learning, study in the U.S./ EducationUSA advising, information literacy classes, presentation/ discussion/ workshop events and movies/ gaming activities.

All services, facilities and programs are available for free to the general public. With one day appointment in-advanced, public are welcomed to visit us on weekdays from 08.00 AM to 04.00 PM. The IRC is closed on Indonesian and American Holidays (check the list of holidays at: <http://goo.gl/Y99he>

IRC Program Highlights in June 2014



1) Students from STKIP Surya Tangerang explored the eLibraryUSA database after a training session lead by IRC staff. 2) Economic Officer, Ben Wohlauer and USAID Science Expert, Dr. Ali Douraghy, shared their expertized in how science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) is very important in the U.S. 3) Students form Subang performed Indonesian traditional dance before a program on Ramadan in the U.S. with Ratnasari Dewi, a Fulbright Alumna.

To get more details about our program, to join and make visit appointment also to request for a particular program arrangement, please contact us at:

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- () 1. How Indonesia Won a Constitution.
- () 2. Indonesia's Election: Democracy at Risk?
- () 3. Indonesia in Pieces: The Downside of Decentralization.
- () 4. How Do You Plan the Campus of the Future? Try Not To.
- () 5. Study in the USA.
- () 6. President Obama Speaks on Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17, Russia and Ukraine, and the Situation in Gaza.
- () 7. U.S. Route 66: A Journey for Travelers Seeking 'Americana.'
- () 8. A New Way of Looking at Public Library Engagement in America.

Disclaimer: Books, articles, and websites described in the Article Alert present a diversity of views in order to keep our IRC users abreast of current issues in the United States. These items represent the views and opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official U.S. Government policy.